



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE
GREEN CITY MAN SENTENCED ON
FIREARM VIOLATION

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Green City, Mo., man was sentenced today for being a felon in possession of a firearm, in the continuing Project Ceasefire anti-crime initiative.

Bradley E. Chapman, 23, of Green City, Mo., was sentenced this afternoon by U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs to two years and six months in prison without parole.

On August 14, 2002, **Chapman** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. By pleading guilty, **Chapman** admitted that he was in possession of a Norinco AK-47 semi-automatic assault rifle on March 3, 2002. Possession of any firearm at that time was illegal, Graves explained, due to **Chapman's** 1997 criminal felony conviction for burglary.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rudolph R. Rhodes IV. The case was investigated by the Milan, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

Project Ceasefire

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement that targets for federal prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms. As of December 19, 2002, Project Ceasefire has resulted in federal charges against 363 defendants, and convictions against 308 of those defendants, including 286 who pleaded guilty and 22 who were convicted at trial. A total of 261 of the 308 convicted defendants have been sentenced, and 47 currently await sentencing hearings.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow